Cleveland Community College Helps Build Careers With Samsung Cloud Displays

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Cleveland Community College is located in Shelby, North Carolina with about 10,000 full time and part-time students. The College is in a rural area and the primary mission is to help students prepare for successful entry into the work environment. The College's IT department manages about 1,500 computing stations spread throughout the seven building campus.



Desktop PC Challenges

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"We realize that every student has to have computer skills so we want to make sure that we provide all of our students with access to computers and the ability to use them," says Ms. Shannon Kennedy, EVP of Instruction and Student Development. The College had several challenges with providing wide-scale computing access to students.

First, many of the older classrooms had limited space and electrical infrastructure to provide computer at every desk. Second, the small IT staff could not support so many traditional PCs. "At the beginning of the semester, we had to install courseware on PCs which required the entire IT staff to scramble," says Mr. Howard Roberts, Manager of Information Systems. Third, given the extremely tight capital budgets, purchasing desktop PCs and monitors was expensive.

"We looked at alternatives to the typical PC, including thin-clients and Cloud displays," says Mr. Roberts, "we decided to deploy Cloud displays because they met all of our needs and have deployed them in classrooms, computer labs, faculty and business offices."

Samsung Cloud Displays - A Compelling Solution

The Cloud displays are a whole new class of professional-grade monitors specially designed for desktop virtualization and cloud computing. They connect directly to the network so there is no need for a separate PC or thin/zero-client at the employee's desk – just the Cloud display. With Cloud displays, students, faculty and staff can access their computing resources from a slim, clutter-free and energyefficient monitor.

Profile

Country: United States Sector: Higher Education Founded: 1965

Challenge

Provide students with computer access to help prepare them for successful careers.

Solution

Samsung SyncMaster Cloud displays in classrooms, computer labs, and administrative offices

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Impact

Cloud displays have enabled students and faculty to integrate technology directly into the classroom. Support costs have declined dramatically.

"We realize that every student has to have computer skills so we want to make sure that we provide all of our students with access to computers and the ability to use them"

Shannon Kennedy EVP of Instruction and Student Development



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EDUCATION

The Cloud displays are connected to servers in the data center so the student's courseware and files are securely and centrally managed. The virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) provides tremendous flexibility for the students, faculty and staff because now they can securely access their own computing session from any Cloud device.

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Significant Cost Savings

"The Samsung Cloud displays cost less to purchase than a typical PC and monitor and we expect a longer life than a typical PC, so the savings will continue," says Mr. Tom Greene, SVP of Finance. "The State of North Carolina (which primarily funds community colleges) has asked community colleges to reduce energy consumption by 20%. The Samsung Clouds greatly enhanced our ability to reduce electricity consumption because they use 70% less electricity compared to a typical PC and monitor."

Faculty and Students Love Samsung Cloud Displays

The Cloud displays have been enthusiastically accepted by the faculty at Cleveland Community College. "The Samsung Cloud displays are our primary workstation for our computer labs. We use them in every class and are vital to our instruction," says Mr. Chance Witherspoon, IT Instructor. "I would absolutely recommend Samsung Clouds to other colleges and universities. They have been a great fit for my classes, the students love them, and they are overall just a great machine."

The College's students have also embraced Cloud displays. "What I noticed about the Cloud display is that I have more a lot more room for books and papers on the desk," says Marty Martin, a student majoring in paralegal and office administration. "I am a big guy, so having extra legroom makes it a lot easier to get in and out without banging my legs against a PC tower. They work at the same speed, have large screens, and are easy to operate."

Computing Flexibility and Freedom

"I use computers all over the campus including classrooms, computer labs and the library," says Ms. Nikki Baron, a student majoring in medical transcription. "Being able to access my work from any Cloud display on campus makes all the difference because with the old PCs, you had to go to that specific classroom. Now I can go to any Cloud display and login and work."

"The flexibility of Cloud displays was key benefit for our instructors and students. In just one classroom, we might have an English class, then a computer skills class, then a photography class, and they all require different software," says Ms. Kennedy, "With Cloud displays and desktop virtualization, we can make it work for every instructor and student."

Clouds In The Future

Cleveland COmmunity College has already deployed hundreds of CLoud displays and plan to transition their entire desktop PC infrastructure over time. "We have had several community colleges visit us to see our Cloud displays installation and would highly recommend them for other higher education institutions," says Mr. Roberts.



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Nikki Baron Student Medical Transcription Major



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